

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Between

**DEPARTMENT OF SERVICES FOR CHILDREN,
YOUTH AND THEIR FAMILIES**

and the

DOVER AIR FORCE BASE

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN THE DEPARTMENT OF SERVICES FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH AND THEIR
FAMILIES, DIVISION OF FAMILY SERVICES AND THE DOVER AIR FORCE BASE**

I. PURPOSE

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is established in order to define and clarify the roles and expectations of the respective agencies, improve services to joint clients, and better coordinate the case management of child abuse and neglect cases involving active duty or reserve military personnel and their military family members.

II. AUTHORITY

- A. Department of Defense Directive 6400.1
- B. Air Force Policy Directive 40-3
- C. Air Force Instruction 40-301
- D. Uniform Code of Military Justice, Title 10 United States Code, Chapter 47
- E. 16 Del. Code Annot. Section 901-909

III. DEFINITIONS

CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT: The physical injury be other than accidental means, injury resulting in a mental or emotional condition which is a result of abuse or neglect, negligent treatment, sexual abuse, maltreatment, mistreatment, nontreatment, exploitation or abandonment of a child under the age of 18. (See e.g. 16 Del. Code Annot. Section 902)

FAMILY ADVOCACY OFFICER (FAO): Point of contact for civilian child protective service agencies for suspected cases of child abuse or neglect involving a military interest. (See e.g. AF140-301)

DIVISION OF FAMILY SERVICES (DFS): Primary state agency responsible for provision of family services. Reports of child abuse and neglect as defined herein must be made to this agency in accordance with Delaware statutes. (See e.g. 16 Del. Code Annot. Sections 904-905)

REQUIRED REPORT: Any medical or mental health provider who knows, or reasonably suspects child abuse or neglect, as defined above, must make a report of the incident.

MILITARY INTEREST: Any cases involving the legal dependent of a military member, or a military member. Legal dependency may be determined by the entitlement of that individual to military medical benefits. The term includes children of a military

member, spouse of a military member, or individual whose military entitlement is based on a sponsorship by the member. A military member is an individual in an active duty status, or reservist on training weekends. Military interest also includes any acts occurring on Dover Air Force Base, to include base housing, without regard to whether those involved are military members or legal dependents.

IV. UNDERSTANDING

- A. In all cases involving a military interest, the FAO will ensure that a required report has been made to the DFS. DFS will advise the FAO within 24 hours of any cases involving a military interest when it serves as the initial point of contact. The FAO and DFS will coordinate case management in all suspected cases involving a military interest.
- B. The FOA and DFS will meet, or otherwise exchange information, on a monthly basis to review cases of military interest. DFS agrees to provide a representative to these meetings familiar with the Air Force Family Advocacy Program, as outlined in AFI 40-301.
- C. Nothing herein shall be construed as a waiver of jurisdiction by the United States over its members, or a limitation on its investigative interests and authority.
- D. Nothing herein shall be construed as limiting the exchange of information beyond that mandated by applicable law and regulation between the FAO and DFS regarding military members or family members who have a history of child abuse or neglect, as defined herein.

V. TERMINATION

This agreement shall remain in effect until specifically abrogated by one of the parties involved. This agreement may be amended by the parties as necessary, by agreement of both parties.

CARLYSE GIDDINS
Director, Division of Family Services
Date:

S. TACO GILBERT III, Colonel, USAF
Commander, 436th Airlift Wing (AMC)
Date: